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C2F 06-13MA

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USS James E. Williams to make Maiden Deployment

NORFOLK, Va. – The guided-missile destroyer USS James E. Williams (DDG 95) will make its maiden deployment as part of the Global War on Terrorism Surface Strike Group (GWOT SSG) 06-2 on **Tuesday, May 2**, with the more than 300 crewmembers “surging” from their homeport in Norfolk.

The amphibious transport dock USS Trenton (LPD 14), homeported at Naval Station Norfolk and the guided-missile cruiser USS Hue City (CG 66), homeported at Naval Station Mayport, also in the GWOT SSG, deployed **April 18**.

The guided-missile destroyer USS James E. Williams (DDG 95) will depart with the Enterprise Carrier Strike Group and rendezvous with GWOT SSG overseas.

USS James E. Williams is named after the most-decorated enlisted man in Navy history, Boatswain Mate First Class James E. Williams, and is the first to bear his name. The ship was commissioned December 11, 2004, in Charleston, South Carolina.

As a Surface Strike Group, USS Trenton, USS Hue City, and USS James E. Williams will enhance naval presence for combatant commanders in support of the ongoing global war on terrorism. All three ships can operate independently or in conjunction with other maritime forces.

This “surge” deployment is designed to be flexible and will provide presence and strike power to support joint and allied forces afloat and ashore. Under the Fleet Response Plan, a realignment of schedules makes this deployment possible.

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NOTE: Media partners wishing to cover the departures of USS Williams should contact Second Fleet Public Affairs at (757) 443-9850 ext. (x47127) no later than 3 p.m. Monday, May 1.

Information on GWOT SSG 06-2 ships is available by visiting <http://www.navy.mil/>. Use the ship type to find information on the ships.